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## **News Release**

For Immediate Release July 13, 2005 Richmond, VA For further information contact Ann Helms 804-819-5400

Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that the grand jury returned a two-count indictment July 12, 2005, charging Paul F. Kersey, age 44, with theft of government property and falsification of government records. Each count carries a maximum sentence of ten years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000. Kersey is a former Postmaster for Hanover County, Virginia.

The indictment alleges that on more than 100 occasions between June 29, 2002, and March 18, 2005, during his tenure as Postmaster, Kersey accepted payment from customers, one of which was the County of Hanover, for various items, including bulk mail payments; underreported the amount of money he had received; altered the items purchased in the computerized cash register; and embezzled the difference in cash, converting more than \$28,562.00 in Postal Service funds to his own use.

Also announcing the Indictment is B. Keith Morris, Acting Inspector-in-Charge, United States Postal Inspection Service.

The case is being investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Sara E. Flannery.